



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,669	09/30/2004	Chien-Wu Yen	14146-US-PA	5668
31561	7590	07/21/2006	EXAMINER	
JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE 7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100 ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2 TAIPEI, 100 TAIWAN				SEVER, ANDREW T
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2851		
DATE MAILED: 07/21/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/711,669	YEN ET AL.
	Examiner Andrew T. Sever	Art Unit 2851

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 06 July 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ .

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-6 and 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Naito (US 2003/0218602.)

Naito teaches in figure 2 a method for managing a lamp brightness, suitable for use in a displaying apparatus using a lamp to produce an image the method comprising:

Setting a selection item corresponding to a mode (S1), the mode being one of a first mode and a second mode (yes or no), wherein a brightness of the lamp at the first mode is different from the brightness of the lamp at the second mode (at S5 the lamp luminance is reduced where as it is not reduced if it is in the other mode);

Searching a specific signal (at S8);

Setting the lamp to the first mode when the specific signal exists and the selection item corresponds to the first mode (This is the no option off of S1);

Setting the lamp to the second mode when the specific signal exists and the selection item corresponds to the second mode (This is the yes option off of S1); and

Setting the lamp to the second mode when the specific signal does not exist (this is the No option off of S8).

*With regards to applicant's claim 2:*

The mute signal would be a display signal since it controls the display. Also as stated in paragraph 33 the display image is changed in the mute state including a state of no signal (display screen black).

*With regards to applicant's claim 3:*

The two states are a displaying state and a video mute state (see paragraph 4 for example).

*With regards to applicant's claim 4:*

The specific signal exists during the displaying state (there is an image signal).

*With regards to applicant's claim 5:*

At the video mute state the specific signal does not exist (see paragraph 33).

*With regards to applicant's claim 6:*

See paragraph 34 (luminance and brightness are equivalent terms.)

*With regards to applicant's claims 8-13:*

See above.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103.***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
4. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
5. Claims 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naito as applied to claims 6 and 13 respectively above, and further in view of Shoji et al. (US 6,734,641.)

As described in more detail above Naito teaches a method for managing a lamp's brightness, which includes among other things a second mode and a first mode wherein the second mode is not as bright as the first mode, however Naito does not teach specifically what the difference in brightness is. Shoji teaches in column 12 lines 18-48 that during an energy saving mode that driving a lamp at 80% is beneficial, as there is

still enough brightness that a user can still see in a dark room (For example in a presentation in a dark room a user is not liable to trip over things while stumbling for the room lights during a video mute that is not triggered on purpose.) Accordingly it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to drive the lamp of Naito at 80% during the second mode as taught by Shoji as this is sufficient light that a user can still see to do some functions while energy is conserved and lamp life is saved.

***Conclusion\***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

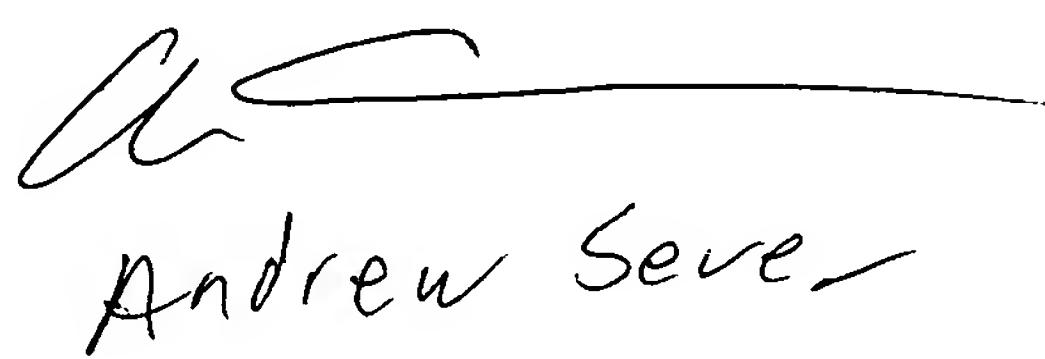
Kurihara (US 2006/0001840) teaches in figures 2 and 3 a lamp control method wherein the lamp is controlled between two modes.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew T. Sever whose telephone number is 571-272-2128. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AS



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Seve". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the "e" in "Seve".